Rocine Lesson 34

וֹנָתוֹן תִּתֵּן לוֹ וְלֹא־יֵרַע לְבָבְךָ בַּתִּֽךָ

Deuteronomy 15:10
Goals

Identify and read

• **infinitive absolute**
• **infinitive construct** ‘constructed into’ an adverb
What we already know

 Skipping the first word for a moment, let’s look at the second.

• Do you recognize the root?
• Is it a prefix or affix conjugation?
What we already know

Skipping the first word for a moment, let’s look at the second.

• Do you recognize the root?

• Is it a prefix or affix conjugation?

נתון

נתן

Prefix
(2ms or 3fs)
What we already know

Skipping the first word for a moment, let’s look at the second.

• Do you recognize the root?
• Is it a prefix or affix conjugation?
• Is this a Piel?
Skipping the first word for a moment, let’s look at the second.

- Do you recognize the root?
- Is it a prefix or affix conjugation?
- Is this a Piel?

No, this is a Qal.
- The 2nd dagesh is due to
  - the assimilated 1st nun of נתן
  - not the middle radical doubling of the Piel
- The hireq is
  - the prefix vowel of the Qal yiqtol,
  - not the 1st root vowel of the Piel Qatal.
Infinitive absolute

נתון כלול ולא惙אער לעבכע בעבך ולא

• The first two verbs have the same root: נת

• The first one is an infinitive absolute.
So, Hebrew has 2 infinitives: **absolute** and **construct**.

- They are named this way because you can ‘build’ or ‘do construction’ with the infinitive **construct** while you cannot with the infinitive **absolute**.

> נָתוֹן חָמָה לָךְ וְלֹא־יֵרַע לְבָבְךָ בְתִּתְךָ לו

Infinite absolute


> בַּתּוֹנֵן חָמָה לָךְ וְלֹא־יֵרַע לְבָבֶךָ בְתִּתְךָ לו

So, Hebrew has 2 infinitives: absolute and construct.

- They are named this way because you can ‘build’ or ‘do construction’ with the infinitive construct while you cannot with the infinitive absolute.
Infinitive absolute

So, Hebrew has 2 infinitives: **absolute** and **construct**.

- **Infinitives construct** can take
  - Inseparable **prepositions** at the front end
  - Pronominal **suffixes** at the back end

- **Infinitives absolute** cannot
Infinitive absolute

Infinitive absolute is a form in Hebrew grammar.

So, Hebrew has 2 infinitives: **absolute** and **construct**.

- Infinitives construct can take
  - Inseparable prepositions at the front end
  - Pronominal suffixes at the back end

- Infinitives absolute cannot

**Prep. include:**
- ל
- ב
- כ
- מ

**Sfx. include:**
- ו
- זה
- ו
- ונ
- etc.
Infinitive absolute

Infinitive Absolute... What does it DO?

- Infinitive Absolute is very often found next to a yiqtol or qatal and it **intensifies** its partner verb.
- It is often translated with the English word **surely** or **indeed**.

**גַּהוֹן חַתָּן לַאֲרָיוֹת לַבָּבֶךָ בָּחְפֶּךָ לָא**
Infinitive absolute

נָתוֹן תִּתֵּן

So נָתוֹן תִּתֵּן could be translated as

• You shall **surely** give
• You shall **indeed** give
• You shall **certainly** give
• You shall **freely** give
Infinitive absolute

The infinitive absolute appears before a regularly conjugated yiqtol or qatal verb form and intensifies its partner verb.

- Literally, the infinitive absolute is like an English gerund meaning a (root meaning) -ing.
- However, when translating into English, we usually translate the yiqtol or qatal normally and add an English surely or indeed to capture the doubly-intense meaning of the phrase.
Infinitive absolute

Infinitive Absolute can also function as an imperative.

- We see a nice example of this in the 10 commandments.

Ex 20:8
Infinitive absolute can also function as an imperative.

- We see a nice example of this in the 10 commandments.

\[ \text{Ex 20:8} \]

Can you parse this form?

Inf. Abs.
Infinitive absolute

Infinitive Absolute can also function as an imperative.

• We see a nice example of this in the 10 commandments.

\[\text{נָתוֹן} \text{ תִּתֵּן} \text{ לוֹ} \text{ וְלֹא־יֵּֽרַע} \text{ לְבָבְךָ} \text{ בְּתִּתְךָ} \text{ לוֹ} \text{ זָכֹר} \text{ אֶת־יְוָּ֤וָמ הַשַּׁבָּ֨ת} \text{ לְקַדְשָ֑ו׃} \]

Ex 20:8

A verb form that looks an awful lot like a Piel Imperative.
(dagesh forte in 2\textsuperscript{nd} root)
(patach 1\textsuperscript{st} root vowel)
Infinitive Absolute can also function as an imperative.

- We see a nice example of this in the 10 commandments.

Ex 20:8

חָגְרֵךְ אַתָּה יְהֹוָה חָגְךָ לְקַדְשָׁךְ:

Piel Inf. Const. with a ל preposition and a 3ms sfx.
Inseparable Prepositional
Pronominal Suffix

Inf. Abs.
Infinitive Absolute can do other things as well.

1. Sequence: With a waw, it can function a bit like a weqatal and carry on the sense of the verb that preceded it.

2. Complementary Idea: It can express complementary or simultaneous action. This interesting usage involves 2 infinitives absolute.

See Animated Hebrew lecture 23 for details.
What is the form of the Infinitive Absolute?

• It tends to have a qamets first root vowel and a holem or tsere theme vowel (second root vowel)

See table in Rocine 34.2c
Infinitive absolute

Infinitives Absolute can look a bit like Infinitives Construct, so morphology is probably not going to be your major identifier of an Infinitive Absolute. Instead you’ll recognize them by:

- The absence of inseparable prepositions and/or pronominal suffixes
- **Context**: how it functioning in the verse
- **Proximity**
  - is it right next to a qatal or yiqtol
  - do you have 2 in a row, especially with the Inf. Abs. of הֲלֹּךְ (see animHeb lec 23)
Remember this slide?

- Infinitives construct can take
  - Inseparable prepositions at the front end
  - Pronominal suffixes at the back end
- Infinitives absolute cannot
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  - Inseparable prepositions at the front end
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- Infinitives absolute cannot

**RULE:** An infinitive construct used with the preposition ב or כ functions as a **temporal adverb** that may be translated using the English *when* ...
Infinitive Construct as Adverbial

Can you identify the Infinitive Construct in the verse above?

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Infinitive Construct as Adverbial

Can you identify the Infinitive Construct in the verse above?

Trans: *when you give...*

RULE: An infinitive construct used with the preposition ב or כ functions as a **temporal adverb** that may be translated using the English *when* ...
## Infinitive Construct as Adverbial

Find the Infinitives Construct and translate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Hebrew Text</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gen 16:16</strong></td>
<td>בְּלֶ דֶת־הָגָ ר אֶת־יִּשְמָעֵּ אל לְאַבְרָם׃</td>
<td>&quot;Tell to Ishmael your servant, for I have given him a son&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gen 27:5</strong></td>
<td>וֹ וְרְִבְְקָָ֣ה שֹמַַ֔עַת בְדַבֵָּ֣ר יִּצְחַָ֔ק אֶל־עֵּשָ ו בְנ֑</td>
<td>&quot;Rebekah heard the word of Isaac to her son Ishmael&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ex 13:17</strong></td>
<td>וַיְהִּֽׁ֗י בְשַלַָ֣ח פַרְעֹה֮ אֶת־הָעָם֒</td>
<td>&quot;And Pharaoh sent the people away&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gen 27:34</strong></td>
<td>כִּשְמֹֹ֤עַ עֵּשָו֥֙ אֶת־דִּבְרֵָּ֣י אָבִַּ֔יו</td>
<td>&quot;I have heard my father's words&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Josh 6:8</strong></td>
<td>וַיְהִּֽׁ֗י כֶאֱמָֹ֣ר יְהוֹשֻׁעַ֮ אֶל־הָעָם</td>
<td>&quot;And Joshua said to the people&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Infinitive Construct as Adverbial

Find the Infinitives Construct and translate:

| When Hagar bore Ishmael for Abraham | Gen 16:16 | בָּלַדְתֵּרָה אַחְיָהִשְׁמֶעַל לָאָבָרָן |
| And Rebekah was listening when Isaac was speaking to Esau his son | Gen 27:5 | וְרִבְּקָּה שֹמַּעְתָּ בְּדַבֵּר יִצְחַּק אֶל־עֵשָּו בְּנֹ |
| And it happened when Pharaoh let the people go | Ex 13:17 | וַיְהִּי בְּשַלָּח פַּרְעֹה אֶת־הָעָם |
| When Esau heard the words of his father | Gen 27:34 | כִּשְׁמַעְתָּ שָׁמַעְתָּ אֲחָדָבְרֵי אָבִּי |
| And it happened when Joshua spoke to the people | Josh 6:8 | וַיְהִי בְּאָמָר יְהוֹשֻׁעַ אֲלָהָעָם |